From: Maureen Baskin
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/28/02 6:07pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I apologize for sending this via email, I've tried several times to FAX this to you today from a local office store, but the line has been busy each time.

Respectifully, Maureen J. Baskin

January 24, 2002

Dear Attorney General John Ashcroft,

Please consider my request for an immediate approval of the pending settlement between Microsoft, the Department of Justice and nine states.

I worked for Microsoft from 1989 to 1996 in sales. Prior to Microsoft I worked for small and large corporations, including Bank of America and Dun and Bradstreet. I have never worked for a company where the employees were so bright, motivated, and empowered. There are so many strengths I would like to share, but in the interest of brevity I will highlight Microsoft's generosity to employees, customers, community and charities.

There were less than 5,000 employees working at Microsoft when I began work there. Excel had less than 11% of the spreadsheet marketplace and Windows was not yet graphical. Through the careful design by management, programmers, marketing, usability testing and sales people, Microsoft went from a company I had rarely heard mentioned from '84 to '89 (while teaching PC classes on the East Coast) to a household name today.

I encourage you to settle this case and commend Microsoft for going beyond the requirements stated by the Court of Appeals ruling. The products Microsoft offers have enriched the lives of so many.

I remember reading an article about Bill Gates' Mother one time and I've never forgotten it. She was calling for him (perhaps it was to dinner), over and over again, but there was no response. Finally when she asked what he was doing, he said, "I'm thinking!" I'm glad he couldn't see the negative in the future, for he may have stopped in his tracks before starting Microsoft.

Let us highlight bright companies and businesses that stretch their imaginations and build superior products. Microsoft was not always such

a big company, thousands have worked very hard to bring about it's success. They have worked consistently for developers, resellers, consumers and corporate customers, to build products needed in their world. Please do not allow jealous competitors to side track the industry, government and the economy on this matter any longer. Thank you for your time and consideration,

Respectfully,

Maureen J. Baskin 502 8th Ave. West, Kirkland, WA 98033

CC: Maureen Baskin